

Lincoln

- **Write down everything you know about him.**
 - **Where did he live?**
 - **What did he do?**
 - **Who was he married to?**
 - **What were his major accomplishments in his life?**

- Knowing that Lincoln freed the slaves, did he believe in equality of the races? **How do you know?**
- At the time that Lincoln did this, what did people think about the idea of freeing the slaves?

A person said this in a speech:

“...I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and black races. There is a physical difference ... which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid ... perfect equality. ... I am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position.”

What did this person think about the idea of equality?

A person said this in a speech:

“I will say here that I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and black races. There is a physical difference between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid their living together upon the footing of a perfect equality; and inasmuch as it becomes a necessity that there must be a difference, I am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position. I have never said anything to the contrary...”

What did this person think about the idea of equality?

“I will say here that I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and black races. There is a physical difference between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid their living together upon the footing of a perfect equality; and inasmuch as it becomes a necessity that there must be a difference, I am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position. I have never said anything to the contrary...” **Abraham Lincoln, August 21, 1858 in Ottawa, Illinois from *Abraham Lincoln, Speeches and Writings, Vols 1-2*, p. 512.**

- Knowing what you **know** about Lincoln, did he believe in equality of the races? How do you know?
- What **questions** do you have?

“I will say here that I have no purpose to introduce political and social equality between the white and black races. There is a physical difference between the two which, in my judgment, will probably forever forbid their living together upon the footing of a perfect equality; and inasmuch as it becomes a necessity that there must be a difference, I am in favor of the race to which I belong having the superior position. I have never said anything to the contrary, **but I hold that notwithstanding all this, there is no reason in the world why the Negro is not entitled to all the natural rights enumerated in the *Declaration of Independence*, the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. I hold that he is as much entitled to these as the White man. I agree with Judge Douglas that the Negro is not my equal in many respects – certainly not in color, perhaps not in moral or intellectual endowment. But in the right to eat the bread which his own hand earns, he is my equal and the equal of Judge Douglas, and the equal of every living man.”** Abraham Lincoln, August 21, 1858 in Ottawa, Illinois from *Abraham Lincoln, Speeches and Writings, Vols 1-2*, p. 512. (see the new stuff added?)

Questioning the Author: Lincoln

- What do you **think** you know about Lincoln?
- What do you **know** about Lincoln?
- Did he believe in equality of the races? How do you know?
- What **questions** do you have?